

Rural District of Daventry

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year 1949

ARTHUR LUCAS,
L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.

To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council of
Daventry.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1949 of the Medical Officer of Health and also incorporating that of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

The statistics of the area agree generally with those of England and Wales, and there have been no major epidemics.

Housing has been going ahead, but is often held up as a result of shortage of materials, and such hold-ups are in no way due to the inaction of the Council.

It is regrettable that the Ministry has seen fit to hold up certain sewage schemes which are urgently required, and I hope that progress will continue in the near future.

Re-housing remains the problem and especially with regard to Problem families, and it is very difficult to know just what decision to make regarding them.

I wish to thank the Chief Sanitary Inspector and his staff, and also all Members of Committees I have been in contact with for their help and support during 1949.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

ARTHUR LUCAS,

Medical Officer of Health.

Daventry Rural District Council

Members of the Public Health Committee:

Messrs. Councillors C. E. Gibbes (Chairman as from April), J. S. L. Towuley (Chairman up till end of April), the late W. A. Thornton (late Chairman of the Council), G. York (present Chairman of the Council), C. H. Adams, Mrs. Rose Ashby, S. Archer, F. H. Bates, Mrs. H. M. Bates, A. Berridge, I. L. Beamond, C. A. Bevan, C. O. Checkley, C. J. S. Colbourne, Mrs. P. E. Cox, G. E. Green, F. Harris, C. D. Henson, W. F. Jalland, A. E. Kingston, H. A. Malin, L. J. B. Ivens, F. T. G. Robinson, and E. H. Thompson.

Public Health Officers of the Council:

Medical Officer of Health:

Arthur Lucas, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.

also holds appointments of
Medical Officer of Health, Daventry Borough,
Medical Officer of Health Brackley Borough,
Medical Officer of Health, Brackley Rural District,
Assistant County Medical Officer of Health,
Assistant County School Medical Officer.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

H. Kirton, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

J. M. Harkness, R.S.I.J.B., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector's Assistant:

B. C. Lines.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1949

Area (in acres)	79,423
Population (based on Registrar-General's figures)	15,900
Number of separate dwellings occupied	5,040
Rateable Value	£81,468
Product of a Penny Rate	£324

					Rate over England & Wales
Live Births	Total	Male	Female	Rate	
Legitimate	238	137	101	15.7	16.7
Illegitimate	12	6	6		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		
	250	143	107		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		

					Rate over England & Wales
Still Births	Total	Male	Female	Rate	
Legitimate	5	1	4	.31	.39
Illegitimate	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		
	5	1	4		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		

					Rate over England & Wales
Deaths (all causes)	Total	Male	Female	Rate	
	217	116	101	16.1	11.7

Deaths from Puerperal Causes Nil

					Rate over England & Wales
Infant Mortality (rate per 1,000 live births)	Total	Male	Female	Rate	
Legitimate	13	8	5	56.0	32.0
Illegitimate	1	—	1		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		
	14	8	6		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		

Deaths from Infectious Diseases

(a) Whooping Cough	1
(b) Measles	Nil
(c) Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area—The area of the District is 79,423 acres, which means an average of one person per 5 acres.

Population—The estimated resident population, according to the Registrar-General's figures, was 15,900, and the natural increase in the population, i.e., excess of births over deaths, was 33.

Deaths—The total deaths corrected for inward and outward transfers was 217. This shows quite a large increase of 50 on the figure of 167 for the year 1948.

The death rate, calculated on the estimated population, was 16.1 per thousand. The following table gives information regarding deaths over the past six years:—

<i>Daventry R.D.C.</i>					<i>Standardised Death Rate</i>		
<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Recorded Rate</i>	<i>Daventry R.D.</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>
1944	201	109	92	10.4	*	12.65	11.60
1945	160	94	66	10.4	*	12.34	11.40
1946	196	116	80	12.8	*	12.00	11.50
1947	187	99	88	12.23	*	12.43	12.00
1948	167	103	64	10.6	*	11.00	10.8
1949	217	116	101	16.1	*	*	11.7

*Not available

The causes of death in the district during the year are given in the following table:—

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1949

Causes	Male	Female	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	1	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2	2	4
Tuberculosis Other Forms	—	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases	1	—	1
Influenza	3	1	4
Measles	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—
Acute Active Encephalitis	—	—	—
Cancer of Buccal Cavity; Oesophagus and Uterus	—	1	1
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	3	—	3
Cancer of Breast	—	4	4
Cancer of all other sites	18	4	22
Diabetes	1	2	3
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	10	13	23
Heart Disease	30	35	65
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	7	8	15
Bronchitis	8	5	13
Pneumonia	5	3	8
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	2	4
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	1	2
Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1	—	1
Appendicitis	—	—	—
Other Digestive Disorders	3	—	3
Nephritis	2	3	5
Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	—	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	—	—	—
Premature Birth	—	1	1
Congenital Malformation, birth injury and infantile diseases	4	1	5
Suicide	1	1	2
Road Traffic Accidents	3	1	4
Other Violent Causes	2	4	6
All Other Causes	8	8	16
TOTALS	116	101	217

From the table it will be seen that more than half of the deaths were due to cancer, heart and circulatory diseases.

Births—The number of births in this district was 238, compared with 281 for 1948. The birth rate of 15.7 was slightly lower than that for England and Wales, which was 16.7.

Stillbirths—The number during the year was 5, compared with 3 in 1948. The stillbirth rate was 0.31, as compared with England and Wales which was 0.39.

Illegitimate Births—The number of illegitimate births was 12, as compared with 8 the previous year.

Maternity Mortality—There was again no death recorded under this heading during the year.

Infant Mortality—The number of infants under one year of age who died during the year was 14 (8 males and 6 females), and the causes of death are shown in the following table:—

Causes of death of children under one year of age

Cause of Death.	Age in weeks.					Total.
	—1	—2	—3	—4	5—52	
1. Congenital Malformations						—
2. Diseases of early infancy—						
a. Congenital Debility	1		1			2
b. Premature Birth	1					1
c. Injury at Birth						—
d. Atelectasis	2					2
e. Others						—
3. Diseases of Respiratory System	1		1		2	4
4. ,, Digestive System					1	1
5. ,, Nervous System						—
6. Tuberculosis Diseases						—
7. Infectious Diseases						—
8. Syphilis						—
9. Overlaying	1				1	2
10. Other Violence						—
11. All other causes	2					2
Total all causes						14

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Service—The Public Health Laboratory Service operating at The General Hospital, Northampton, was always available for diagnosis and analysis of specimens relative to disease, many of the doctors in the district take full advantage of the facilities offered by the laboratory. The service is free of cost to the Local Authority.

Diphtheria Anti-Toxin—In accordance with the provisions of the Diphtheria Anti-Toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910, arrangements are made whereby medical practitioners may obtain the anti-toxin from local chemists at short notice and free of cost. It should be noted that one case of diphtheria was notified, but was not finally confirmed, the child concerned had been immunised. The freedom of the district from diphtheria has been very noticeable during recent years.

Ambulance Service—For Infectious cases the Northampton Isolation Hospital ambulance was used, and was administered by the Ambulance Brigade from Northampton. For non-infectious cases and residents the ambulance maintained by the St. John Ambulance Brigade stationed at Daventry is used. The service appeared adequate for the needs of the District.

Nursing in the Home—The District is covered by District Nursing Associations, headquarters being in the larger parishes and usually covering two or more parishes. Each is supported by voluntary contributions and administered by a local committee.

Treatment Centres and Clinics—Infant Welfare Clinics are held at Weedon, Byfield, and Long Buckby. Ante-Natal Clinics are held in Daventry, and mothers from the surrounding district can visit if they so desire.

Hospitals—The treatment of infectious cases was carried out at the Harborough Road Isolation Hospital, Northampton.

Treatment for general medical and surgical cases was obtained at both the Northampton General Hospital and the Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

Water Supply—There have been some changes and improvements to report as regards water supplies to the District.

The public supplies have generally proved satisfactory as regards quality. Due to the very dry summer there were shortages of domestic waters in some parts of the district, and temporary measures to implement supplies had to be put in hand by the Surveyor, Mr. Bonsor. This shortage was very general throughout the country, and probably this District fared as well as any during that very dry period.

At the moment 25 parishes have public water supplies. In the remaining parishes of the district, domestic water supplies are obtained from wells and springs, and these appeared reasonably satisfactory.

I am happy to report that the Everdon-Newnham Public Water Supply was made available to the public during the later part of the year, and further gratified to know there has been a practically 100 per cent. connection to the mains in both parishes. In the parish of Preston Capes, the Council still had to cart water, but the mains for the new Supply had been laid and many of the house connections made, but the supply was not available to the public, and it did appear that such supply would not be available until mid-way through 1950. In the parish of Helidon, the mains of the new Public Supply had been laid, and most of the tappings from the mains to the properties' boundaries had been made. Again it appeared that the supply would not be available to the public until the latter half of 1950. In both of the last two named parishes there has been a very excellent number of applications for connection to the mains. In those cases where visits could not produce an application, the existing supplies were sampled, and where they proved unsatisfactory the owners were contacted and are now connected.

The Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board had come into being, but powers were still delegated to this Council as regards water supplies, and after one or two dates had been mentioned as to when the Water Board would assume full powers, it was finally understood that such powers would come into operation on the 1st April, 1950.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector's department have made many visits and enquiries regarding water supplies and have obtained many new connections to the mains as a result. Particularly this applies where samples were sent for analysis and proved unsatisfactory.

All Public Water Supplies are under constant treatment by chlorination, and these supplies are regularly bacteriologically analysed, and apart from an odd fluctuation, these analyses have been very satisfactory.

The following is a summary of work carried out during the year in regard to water supplies:—

Inquiries as to conditions of supplies	.....	.....	.....	612
Water Samples analysed	.....	.....	.....	176
Samples proved satisfactory by analysis	.....	.....	.....	104
Samples proved unsatisfactory by analysis	.....	.....	.....	72
New pumps provided	.....	.....	.....	4
Pumps repaired	.....	.....	.....	2
Wells cleansed or improved	.....	.....	.....	2
Connections made to Council's mains	.....	.....	.....	383
Number of informal notices sent regarding water supplies	.....	.....	.....	190

In accordance with the requirements of the Minister of Health with regard to water supplies to each parish, I append herewith a schedule showing the number of houses of each parish of the district with piped or non-piped supplies:—

Schedule showing Piped or Non-Piped Water Supplies

PIPED SUPPLIES			NON-PIPED SUPPLIES		
Parish	No. of Houses Laid on Supply	Stand Tap Supply	Parish Wells	No. of Houses Private Wells	Springs
Ashby St. Ledgers	29	18		5	
Badby	60	71		21	1
Barby	107	3		26	
Braunston	259	27		37	
Brockhall	5			4	
Byfield	194	2	8	62	4
Canons Ashby	1			14	
Catesby	5			12	11
Charwelton	40			12	
Clay Coton	16			2	2
Crick	188	8		29	1
Dodford	17	2	11	25	
Elkington				17	1
Everdon	145			7	
Farthingstone	10	38		12	
Fawsley	2			7	1
Flore	230	16		61	
Helidon	6		18	35	
Kilsby	127			26	
Lilbourne	60			11	
Long Buckby	654	25		110	
Newnham	114			16	
Norton	21	47		26	4
Preston Capes	4		34	16	
(Water Carted by Council)					
Stanford	10			4	
Staverton	77		3	13	1
Stowe-IX-Churches	8	4		55	
Watford	36	18		30	4
Weedon Bec	366	15		53	
Welton	93	17		7	
West Haddon	160	36		28	
Whilton	12	21		33	3
Winwick	31	4		1	
Woodford Halse	475	2		58	
Yelvertoft	68	33		22	

Sewage Disposal, Drainage and Sewerage—The general conditions at the end of the year were much the same as for previous years. There is progress to report, however, the new sewage disposal schemes for Braunston and Kilsby were practically completed and most of the house connections to boundaries had been made, but the works were not ready to receive sewage, due to a hold up in the provision of the necessary equipment and machinery. The schemes at West Haddon, Badby, and Newnham (joint scheme) made good progress, and by the end of the year nearly all house connections to boundaries had been made, and at Badby and Newnham scheme the works were almost ready to receive sewage. There are still a large number of parishes without proper sewage schemes, etc., and the Council have had set-backs in commencing schemes in some of these parishes, the Ministry not allowing the works to be commenced at the present time. It is hoped that Ministry approval will be granted in the near future so that more parishes may be provided with proper sewage schemes and sewage disposal works. At the moment there are 11 parishes with sewers and sewage disposal works, and in two parishes the works are temporary, with the addition of the above mentioned parishes, the number of parishes with proper schemes is increased to 16. Water closets are general in all sewered parishes. In the remaining parishes, pail, elsan, and privy form the lavatory accommodation. The house drainage of the district is very fair, it is generally good in all sewered parishes. There are quite a large number of septic tanks in use in all those parishes without sewage works, but the greater part of the house drainage is discharged via the surface water sewer to open dykes, causing much expense in the cleansing, etc. There has been a very big increase in the provision of new drainage to properties, due to the new schemes in progress, and much work has been done in the visiting and laying out of new drainage works to properties in these parishes.

I give below a summary of various works carried out during the year with reference to drainage, etc.:—

Number of new water closets provided	.....	.....	122
Number of water closet pedestals provided	.....	.....	35
Number of pail closets converted to water closets	.....	.....	61
Number of privies converted to water or pail closets	.....	.....	22
Number of baths fixed	.....	.....	56
Number of new drains provided	.....	.....	281
Number of drains reconstructed or improved	.....	.....	33
Number of cleansing or minor repairs	.....	.....	6
Number of ventilating shafts provided	.....	.....	77
Number of septic tanks provided	.....	.....	10
Number of cesspools abolished	.....	.....	3
Number of yards paved or concreted	.....	.....	32
Number of inspection chambers provided	.....	.....	58
Number of gullies provided	.....	.....	97
Number of sinks provided	.....	.....	74
Number of wash-basins provided	.....	.....	52
Number of new bathrooms provided	.....	.....	56
Number of informal notices re lavatory accommodation drainage and cleansing	.....	.....	61

Disinfection—All houses from which infectious disease cases were removed were disinfected, and soap and liquid disinfectant was left with householders for thorough cleansing after fumigation. This fumigation also applied in the cases of Tuberculosis patients being removed to sanatorium or upon their death at home.

Eradication of Bed Bugs—No cases were brought to our notice.

Moveable Dwellings, Public Health Act, 1936, section 269—There was one application for licence under the above section, but after a visit and interview, the application was subsequently withdrawn.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, Infestation Order, 1943—The Council again renewed the Annual Contract with the Pests Officer of the Agricultural Executive Committee, for the destruction of rats on the Council's refuse tips. These tips are regularly treated and at such other times as may be necessary. Frequent visits and inspections of refuse tips reveal that this method of treatment is very effective. There are times when, after an inspection, it has been necessary to request that a tip requires treatment, but it is usually after a farmer has threshed or cut his corn nearby. I understand that a great majority of the farmers in the district are also under yearly contract with the Pests Officer for rat destruction on their farmsteads. This is a very excellent thing, it has kept farms generally remarkably free from rats. We have had quite a number of requests for inspection and help in the destruction of rats on private properties, and we find that poultry or pig-keeping is the cause of the infestation. Suitable advice is given and help where it is deemed necessary. The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, would come into operation in the new year, giving important differences of powers in relation to the existing Acts and Orders.

Schools—We have 31 schools in the district, but those at Ashby St. Ledgers, Charwelton, Helidon and Whilton remain closed, and the children have to go to other schools in the neighbourhood. This question of transport of the children to other schools has been the cause of numerous complaints. We hope travelling facilities will be favourable to all concerned. Visits of inspection to school premises generally show a reasonable standard of cleanliness. Several schools were completely re-decorated during the year, and water closets, etc., have been provided to two schools in the district. One such school I mentioned in my last report, that unsatisfactory condition has now been remedied. We have also one private school in the district, where conditions are satisfactory.

Factories and Workshops Act, 1937—There are now 90 premises on the register, chiefly workshops. We received two lists of notification of changes of use and deletions from His Majesty's Inspector of Factories. There were four additions to the register and four deletions.

Lists of outworkers were received in January, February, and March. Each list contained the name of one outworker, and the premises were satisfactorily maintained.

We received one letter from His Majesty's Inspector of Factories regarding lavatory accommodation. The defect was quickly remedied by informal action. One factory was provided with fire escape.

Scavenging—Until the end of March refuse collection was carried out by Annual Contract in the majority of the parishes of the District. This method, however, ceased on the 1st April. I would at this stage remark on the contractors who carried out this work, and in a satisfactory manner; many of them had contracts renewed annually by the Council for many years. I feel they were good servants to the Council.

The putting into operation of a direct method of Refuse Collection was a somewhat costly operation for the first year. Two vehicles had to be purchased and equipped with suitable tools, etc., and a staff of two lorry drivers and five loaders were engaged. The district was divided into two portions and as near as could be arranged the number of houses to be scavenged by each vehicle was equal. The parishes of Whilton, Watford, Brockhall, and Buckby Wharf, Norton, Libourne, Stanford, Clay Coton, Winwick, and Yelvertoft are scavenged fortnightly and the remainder of the district weekly. The initial stages of the scheme had to be necessarily conducted on a trial and error method, but the scheme worked so well to schedule that it has been adopted since, and I believe the work has been carried out in a very satisfactory manner. There have naturally been difficulties to overcome; a very big worry has been with the vehicles entering the tips when loaded and sinking in, the reason being that in the past light lorries or horse and cart have been used and tips have not been solidified to carry the extra weight of the new vehicles. We get complaints from time to time about the non-emptying of bins, but on inspection it has been found that the bins contain all garden refuse, in some instances they are full of maggots, etc. When the scheme commenced many people throughout the district got the impression that it was time to clear out all their old junk and let the Council collect it. Our men were instructed to clear up at the time, but in future to collect purely household refuse. Salvage has also been collected at the same time, and though it was difficult to find a market for it, we did eventually obtain one, and we have periodically had it collected from the Council's depot. Towards the end of the year there was every indication that Waste Paper Collection may become a more profitable venture, and we continued the collection throughout the district.

I give below a summary of costs of putting the scheme into operation and also the quantities of refuse collected during the period 1st April to 31st December:—

	£	s.	d.
2 drivers at £5 18 6d. p.w. for 41 weeks	485	17	0d.
4 loaders at £5 4 0d. p.w. for 40 weeks	852	0	0d.
1 loader at £5 4 0d. p.w. for 35 weeks	182	0	0d.
National Health stamps, 277 at 4/2d. p.w.	57	14	2d.
Petrol 880 galls. at 2/1½d. p.g.	£93	10	0d.
495 galls. at 2/3½d. p.g.	£56	13	11½d.
Oil 77 pints at 1/2½d. p.p.	4	9	10d.
Adcoids 806 tablets at 1½d. each	£5	0	9d.
Equipment (Clothing, tools, etc.)	51	4	8d.
Waste Paper Baler	28	0	0d.
Printing of Refuse Collection Bills	3	10	4d.
Insurance (both vehicles expire 31st March, 1950)	17	2	2d.
Road Fund Licences (both vehicles to end of year)	66	18	10d.

	£	s.	d.
Vehicles cost (this cost will not appear again)	2616	0	0d.
Vehicles (half-yearly depreciation based on 10 years' life)	133	8	0d.
Rent of refuse tips	65	12	6d.
Full Total	4,719	2	2½d.

**Motor Vehicles Petrol/Oil Consumption and Mileage
year ending 31st December, 1949 (both vehicles).**

Petrol Consumed	Oil Consumed	Adcoids	Mileage
1375 gallons	77 pints	806 tablets	10,723
Average petrol consumption 7.7 miles per gallon.			

Quantities of Refuse Collected—From the driver's records, 148,940 dustbins have been cleansed during the nine months period or 1,220 vehicle loads.

A very big question is the soiling over of refuse tips now full, I am proposing to do this work with our existing labour force, by working Saturday mornings, I am endeavouring to obtain soil from as near the tips as is possible, but the Council had under way the proposed purchase of the Dodford Refuse Tip, there is a considerable quantity of soil available there, but it means a long cartage to such places as Long Buckby and Barby tips. This will necessarily mean some expense, but it should be borne in mind that these tips have been in use for many years, and soiling has not been necessary until the time for them to be handed back to the various owners.

As a point of interest, the rate for refuse collection for the year 1948, under annual contract, was 5.55d., for the half year commencing 1st April, 1949, the rate increased to 8.098d., for the half year commencing 1st October, 1949, still further increased to 11.343d., but this rate would substantially decrease afterwards, the reason being that the whole cost of the vehicles would have been met and would not appear again.

Petroleum (Regulations) Acts, 1928 and 1936.

Number of Licences to store petroleum renewed	46
Number of Licences to store petroleum granted	2
Number of Licences to store Carbide of Calcium renewed	2
Number of Licences to store Cellulose Solutions renewed	1

Public Health Act, 1936 (Part 10) Canal Boats.

There were 397 entries of canal boats registered with the Council at the end of the year.

Number of Canal Boats registered during the year	1
Visits to waterways to inspect canal boats	4

SECTION D

HOUSING

Housing from many angles remains a thorny problem, more and more new houses are still required to meet the needs of pressing cases. These include overcrowded houses, unfit houses, and those applicants in rooms or who are lodgers. Building of new houses is still slow. Some progress has been made, and at Everdon in particular the new houses were erected and occupied in a matter of approximately six months. At the end of 1948 a review of all applicants for council houses for the Minister of Health was carried out, and the following table gives a complete picture of that review:—

Total number of Forms sent out	Total number of forms returned			Numbers of forms not returned
	Number who replied 'YES'	Number who replied 'No'	Number of persons Gone Away and Untraced	
1088	651	74	54	309

However, after deducting those applicants who received house allocations during 1949 and then adding new applicants the total at the end of the year stood at 690 applicants. Just before the close of the year, the Council decided that after January, 1950, rents for new houses should be increased, and therefore a further review of applicants was necessitated. This was not complete at the end of the year. Many visits and re-visits were made to applicants for council houses, with a view to obtaining the up-to-date information of each case, but naturally, we still get letters of protest about house allocations, but bearing all things in mind, I feel that the Council are making every endeavour to carry out the Ministry's guide in selecting tenants for council houses.

The Rural Housing Survey carried out in 1945, revealed 4,728 separate dwellings in the district, but by the end of 1949 there were 5,040 separate dwellings in occupation.

Quite a deal of repair work has been carried out, but not of a major type, the 'free limit' of £100 for housing repairs has helped in this respect, but very few houses have been extensively repaired. I am bearing in mind the Housing Survey category 2 and 3 houses, and I would be happy to see some of these houses repaired and so enter category 1. Those entered under category 5 still further deteriorate, but it does seem that these conditions will have of necessity to continue for some time yet.

The licensing of building operations which were estimated to cost more than £100 was still in operation, and during the year we issued licences to 32 properties at a total estimated cost of £7,645, and in addition 14 applications for licences at a total estimated cost of £4,790 were sent to the Regional Licensing Officer, Nottingham, for his approval after inspection by my department.

Council housing sites have been inspected from time to time, and generally the standard of upkeep is satisfactory. The old question of unsightly hutments still remains and is a matter of some concern.

In connection with new houses built and occupied, according to clerk of works reports, the following numbers show the progress made. At Badby 4 were occupied, they had been allocated the previous year at Flore 6 were occupied, they had been allocated the previous year, at

Weedon 8 were occupied, they had been allocated the previous year, and 6 farm workers' houses at Weedon were occupied, also at Weedon 4 hutments were converted and occupied. At Braunston 2 Aireys were occupied, 6 agricultural workers' houses were allocated, a further 8 were being built. At Charwelton 4 houses were under construction, at Crick 8 houses were occupied, at Everdon 4 houses were occupied, at Kilsby 6 houses were occupied, at Lilbourne 2 were occupied, at Long Buckby 18 were occupied, at Whilton 8 were occupied, at Woodford 10 were occupied, and at Yelvertoft 10 were occupied. In addition further houses were in varying stages of erection at Badby, Kilsby, Long Buckby, Whilton, Woodford Halse, and Yelvertoft.

The following is a summary of housing work carried out during the year:—

1.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses inspected for defects under Public Health and Housing Acts	.....	.....	.....	1388
	(b)	Number of inspections for the purpose	.....	.....	.....	2274
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regs. 1925/32	.....	.....	.....	—
	(b)	Inspections made for the purpose	.....	.....	.....	—

Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notice:

Number of houses rendered fit in consequence of action by Local Authority or its officers:

(a)	Housing Acts	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	202
(b)	Public Health Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	233

Action under Statutory Powers:

A. Proceedings under sects. 9, 10 and 16 Housing Act, 1936:

1.	Dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47
2.	Dwelling houses rendered fit after service of formal notice:						
	(a) by owners	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	44
	(b) by Local Authority on default of owners	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nil
3.	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation (Rural Housing Survey)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1256
4.	Dwelling houses (exclusively of those under proceeding subhead) not in all respects reasonably fit (Rural Housing Survey)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1880
5.	Number of council house applicants interviewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1362

B. Proceedings under the Public Health Act:

1.	Dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	252
2.	Dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:						
	(a) by owners	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	237
	(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nil

C. Proceedings under section 11 and 13 Housing Act, 1936:

1.	Dwelling houses in respect of demolition order	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nil
2.	Dwelling houses demolished	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4

D. Proceedings under section 12 Housing Act, 1936:

1.	Separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nil
2.	Separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nil

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936 (Part 4) OVERCROWDING—

(a)	1	Number of dwelling houses overcrowded	.....	43
	2	Number of families therein	.....	61
		Number of persons dwelling therein	.....	338
(b)		Number of cases of overcrowding relieved	.....	4
		Number of persons concerned in such cases	.....	34

The following is a general summary of works carried out with reference to housing during the year:

House floors repaired	.....	37
House roofs repaired	.....	28
House windows and frames repaired	.....	42
Roofs re-thatched	.....	6
Ceilings repaired and renewed	.....	74
New cooking ranges provided	.....	23
New bathrooms provided	.....	56
Hot water systems installed	.....	58
Repairs to external walls	.....	22
Repairs to internal walls	.....	95
Repairs to chimneys and chimney breasts	.....	27
Repairs to gutterings, downspouts, etc.	.....	72
New coppers provided	.....	8

I would state that much more small repair work has been carried out without licence and we have no actual record of such small repairs.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply—Generally the supply was satisfactory and there did not appear to be any shortage. The majority of retailers are also producers, and such producer-retailers can be found in every village in the district. There are also five large retailing firms supplying bottled Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested milk throughout a very large area of the district. In October, 1949, the Milk Regulations (1949) came into operation. This transferred the powers of Local Authorities in relation to milk and milk production to the Ministry of Agriculture. At the same time there also came into being the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations (1949) and the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations, 1949. Under the new Regulations, the Local Authority are only responsible for purely milk retailers, i.e., those persons buying their milk wholesale and then retailing. The Local Authority had to register such persons under the Regulations. There were 258 registered producers on the register. The premises generally were in very fair condition and most farmers maintained a reasonable standard of cleanliness.

The following is a summary of work carried out with reference to milk production during the year:

Number of cowsheds constructed	.....	.....	.....	2
Number of cowsheds reconstructed	.....	.....	.....	6
Number of new entries on the register	.....	.....	.....	12
Number of entries removed from the register	.....	.....	.....	1
Number of cleansing notices sent	.....	.....	.....	10
Dealers Licences to sell Pasteurised Milk	.....	.....	.....	3
Dealers Licence to sell Tuberculin Tested milk	.....	.....	.....	1
Supplementary Licence to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	.....	.....	.....	1
Visits to cowsheds and dairy premises	.....	.....	.....	286

Bakehouses—There are 18 bakehouses in the district, and most of them are structurally poor, but generally a satisfactory standard of cleanliness is maintained. We did have to take action in two cases to obtain a satisfactory standard. It is apparent the need is for modern premises and modern equipment. These premises are under constant supervision.

Shops—The shop premises in the district are generally of the small cottage type, and these shops are much more difficult to maintain, though such shops where rationed foods and the like are sold do generally make every effort to maintain cleanliness. There are a few more modern shops, and such shops can and do maintain a good standard of cleanliness. Many inspections of foodstuffs have been made and frequent visits to shops and shop premises. The following is a list of foods condemned as being unfit for human consumption in accordance with section 10 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1935:

Bacon	.....	.....	.....	12lbs.
Beans	.....	.....	.....	6 x 16 ozs. tins
Beetroot	.....	.....	.....	1 x 16 ozs. tin
Beef Roll	.....	.....	.....	6lbs.
Cakes	.....	.....	.....	6 x 1lb.
Cheese	.....	.....	.....	4lbs.
Dutch Brawn	.....	.....	.....	1 x 4lb. tin
Grapefruit	.....	.....	.....	1 tin
Horse Radish Sauce	.....	.....	.....	55 x 10 ozs. tins
Luncheon Meat	.....	.....	.....	1 x 4lb. tin
Milk	.....	.....	.....	6 x 16 ozs. tins
Peaches	.....	.....	.....	6 x 16 ozs. tins
Peas	.....	.....	.....	14 x 16 ozs. tins
Pilchards	.....	.....	.....	1 tin
Plums	.....	.....	.....	1 x 2lb. tin
Potatoes	.....	.....	.....	1 x 2½lb. tin
Salmon Grade 1	.....	.....	.....	2 tins
Salmon Grade 2	.....	.....	.....	1 tin
Sausage	.....	.....	.....	6lbs.
Salad Dressing	.....	.....	.....	34 x 10 ozs. tins
Sandwich Spread	.....	.....	.....	26 x 10 ozs. tins
Tomatoes	.....	.....	.....	5 x 1lb. tins
Veal Loaf	.....	.....	.....	2 tins

Food and Drugs Act, 1935, Sections 14 and 57

Number of premises registered for first time under Sect. 14	.....	23
Number of premises registered as Registered Slaughter Houses	.....	13
Number of premises registered as Registered Knockers Yard	.....	1

Public Health Meat Regulations, 1924

There are 26 butchers' shops in the district. The majority of these shops are structurally old, but even so a reasonable standard of cleanliness is maintained. There are a few more modern shops, which are satisfactory. Regular and frequent inspections are made of butchers' shops and of the meat for sale. No unsound meat was found exposed for sale, neither was there any condemnation of carcase meat. I am not able to give details as requested by the Ministry regarding numbers of carcasses inspected and those condemned. The only slaughtering which takes place in the district is that of the cottager's pig.

Section 1 of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, is in operation in the district. Two licences were renewed to slaughtermen engaged in public abattoirs. All carcase meat is delivered to butchers' shops from the central abattoir. I have pointed out before the unsatisfactory way this is carried out, being by a van, not always a refrigerating van. There was an improvement in the type of van being used for this purpose, but it appears to have lapsed of late.

Allocation of Food Gifts from the Colonies

On the instruction of the Council, I undertook the delivery of a small consignment of food gift parcels to the aged and needy people in the smaller parishes of the district. Parcels were delivered to over 200 houses.

General Summary of the Chief Sanitary Inspector

Number of inspections and visits	.....	.....	5936
Number of re-inspections	.....	.....	886
Number of informal notices served	.....	.....	504
Number of informal notices complied with	.....	.....	462
Number of nuisances abated	.....	.....	128
Number of complaints (written or verbal) investigated			285

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

During the year 167 cases of infectious diseases were notified in the district. This is a decrease on the previous year, and it should be noted that of this number 116 cases were either Measles or Whooping Cough. The larger number of Measles cases were notified during February. There was a decrease in Scarlet Fever cases, there being 34 cases, as against 42 cases in the previous year. All the cases were of a very mild type. The following table gives the distribution of cases in each parish and in each month of the year. Scarlet Fever and Poliomyelitis cases were removed to Isolation Hospital and the houses disinfected. The Typhoid cases all came in the parish of Weedon. The first case was notified after post-mortem examination at the General Hospital, and the follow up by the department resulted in 3 adult persons of the same family being confirmed Typhoid after examination at the Hospital and the taking of swabs. The three latter cases all recovered, and there were no further notifications of this disease.

INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASE (other than Tuberculosis)
IN INDIVIDUAL PARISHES DURING THE YEAR 1949

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Ophthalmia Neonatorum</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Diphtheria</i>	<i>Pneumonia</i>	<i>Erysipelas</i>	<i>Measles</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Dysentary</i>	<i>Chicken Pox</i>	<i>Food Poisoning</i>	<i>Typhoid</i>	<i>Puerperal Fever</i>	<i>Cerebro Spinal Meningitis</i>	<i>Anterior Poliomyelitis</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Ashby St. Ledgers	—	1				6	—		—	—		—	—	—	7
Badby	—	—				—	—		—	—		—	—	—	—
Barby	—	—				4	—		—	—		—	—	—	4
Brockhall	—	—				—	—		—	—		—	—	—	—
Braunston	—	—				—	—		—	—		—	—	—	—
Byfield	—	5				—	2		—	—			—	—	7

INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASE—continued.

Parish	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Dysentery	Chicken Pox	Food Poisoning	Typhoid	Puerperal Fever	Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	Anterior Polyomyelitis	TOTAL
Canons Ashby	—	—				—	—		—	—		—	—	—	—
Catesby	—	—				—	—		—	—		—	—	—	—
Charwelton	—	—				—	1		—	—		—	—	—	1
Clay Coton	—	1				2	—		—	—		—	—	—	3
Crick	—	1				1	—		—	—		—	—	—	2
Dodford	—	—		1		—	—		—	—		—	—	—	1
Elkington	—	—				2	—		—	—		—	—	—	2
Everdon	—	—				—	2		—	—		—	—	—	2
Farthingstone	—	—				—	2		—	—		—	—	—	2
Fawsley	—	—				—	—		—	—		—	—	—	—
Flore	—	2		1		3	—		—	—		1	—		7
Helidon	—	—				—	—		—	—		—	—	—	—
Kilsby	—	1				2	—		—	—		—	—	1	4
Lilbourne	—	—				2	—		—	—		—	—	—	2
Long Buckby	—	7	1			38	1		—	—		—	—	—	47
Newnham	—	—				—	—		—	—		—	—	—	—
Norton	—	—				1	1		—	—		—	—	—	2
Preston Capes	—	3				—	—		—	—		—	—	—	3
Stanford	—	—				1	—		—	—		—	—	—	1
Staverton	—	1				—	—		—	—		—	—	—	1
Stowe-IX-Churches	—	—				—	—		—	—		—	—	—	—
Watford	—	—				1	—		—	—		—	—	—	1
Weedon Bec	—	9				9	8		—	3	4	—	—	2	35
Welton	—	2				2	—		—	—		—	—	—	2
West Haddon	—	1	1			2	—		—	—		—	—	—	4
Whilton	1	—				—	—		—	—		—	—	—	1
Winwick	—	—				—	—		—	—		—	—	—	—
Woodford Halse	—	—		1		4	15		—	—		—	—	—	20
Yelvertoft	—	—				6	—		—	—		—	—	—	6
TOTALS	1	34	1	4	—	84	32	—	—	3	4	1	—	3	167

PERIOD DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1949

A statement showing the period distribution of the cases notified is given hereunder:—

DISEASE	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTALS
Scarlet Fever	5	2	—	7	4	—	—	—	3	3	7	3	34
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	18	41	8	12	1	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	84
Whooping Cough	1	—	1	3	17	3	2	—	—	—	5	—	32
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	3
Typhoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	4
Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	3
Dysentary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorium	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Chicken Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	24	45	12	22	22	7	2	3	5	8	14	3	167

There were 3 cases of Food Poisoning notified during the year. All cases were investigated and no trace could be found of the cause. In the case of two notifications, it was suspected that the disease was caused by water and the house copper fittings, but various tests and analyses of the water did not confirm this view. All the cases recovered.

Tuberculosis—The year showed an increase of one case of fresh notification over the number of notifications for the previous year. There were 16 cases as against 15 cases. Thirteen were of respiratory nature and 3 non-respiratory. It should be pointed out, however that 3 of the respiratory cases (1 male and 2 females) were inward transfers from other districts and were notified to this Authority by the County Health Department. All new cases of Tuberculosis are notified to the County Medical Officer of Health, and removal is arranged where considered

necessary by the County Medical Officer of Health and the County Tuberculosis Officer to Sanatorium. The living conditions of all notified cases are investigated by the Chief Sanitary Inspector's department, and disinfection is carried out, and soap and liquid disinfectant left with the householder for thorough cleansing afterwards. This disinfection has also applied to houses from which there have been Tubercular deaths. The Chief Sanitary Inspector's department have checked all cases existing on the register, and at the end of the year there was a total of 67 known cases on our register, 32 males and 20 females, all respiratory, 5 males and 10 females, all non-respiratory. There were 4 deaths from tuberculosis during the year, all respiratory (2 males and 2 females), giving a tuberculosis death rate of .25 per thousand. We received from the County Health Department information that 1 female non-respiratory case was cured, 1 non-respiratory male was cured, and 1 female respiratory was cured. Further, during our check through the district, it was found that 1 male and 1 female, both respiratory, had left this District, and their removal was notified to the Authority concerned.

The Daventry and District Care Committee was still in existence, and help has been given to varied cases and for various reasons.

NEW CASES DURING 1949

Age periods Years	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0— 1	—	—	—	—
2— 5	—	—	1	—
5—15	—	1	—	1
15—25	3	2	1	—
25—35	—	—	—	—
35—45	3	2	—	—
45—55	—	—	—	—
55—65	1	—	—	—
65 and over	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	8	5	2	1

